THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government have leased capacity of ARABSAT-1B and STATITONAR-13 satellites and allocated use of five transponders on the former and one on the latter to Doordarshan for distribution of TV programmes.

Guidelines for Fixing the length of National Highways

1886. DR. NARREDDY THULASY REDDY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any formulae or guidelines for fixing the length of national highways in a particular state; and

(b) if so, whether such guidelines are followed in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT WITH ADDITIONAL CHANGE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) There is no formula for fixing the length of National Highways in a particular State. However, roads are declared as National Highways keeping in view the following besides the availability of resources:

(i) roads which run through the length and breadth of the country;

(ii) roads connecting adjacent countries;

(iii) roads connecting State capitals;

(iv) roads connecting major ports and important industrial or tourist centres;

(v) roads meeting very important strategic requirements;

(vi) roads carrying high density of traffic over an adequate length; and

(vii) roads which will enable sizeable reduction in travel distance and advancement of substantial economies thereby.

(b) While declaring National Highways, these guidelines are followed.

National Highways in Andhra Pradesh

1887. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY:
DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh have sent proposals for the inclusion of roads into national highways;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government propose to accept the proposals if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) to (c) During the Seventh Plan, the State Government had projected ten State Roads for inclusion in the NH system as detailed in Statement B/F below) out of which Nizamabad Jagdalpur road has already been declared as National Highway. Inclusion of remaining roads in the NR network during the Eighth Plan period would depend upon the availability of resources and also the *inter-se* priority of various

proposals relating to the declaration of new National Highways in the country.

Statement

Roads projected by the Govt. of Andhra Pradesh for inclusion in NH System

S. No.	Name of Routes	Length Km
1.	Vijayawada - Machilipatnam	70
2.	Nellore- Hubli *via* Gooty	370
3.	Kakinada - Jagdalpur *via* Rajahmundry Bhadrachalam- Venkatpuram	360
4.	Hyderabad- Venkatpuram *via* Warangal and Nagaram	260
5.	Nizamabad- Jagdalpur *via* Jagtial, Peddapalli, Manthani and Bhopalapatnam	280
6.	Ongole- Raichur *via* Giddlur, Nandyal, Kurnool and Uppal	340
7.	Chittor- Bhadrachalam *via* Cuddapah, Markapur, Machirla, Nagarjunsagar and Khammam	680
8.	Hyderabad to Chandrapur *via* Karimnagar, Mancheriyal, connecting NH-IV and NH-VII	332
9.	Bhadrachalam- Chintur- Sileuru- Chintapally- Paderu- Arak- Vijayanagaram- Palakonda and Srikakulam on NH. No. 5	400
10.	Naidupet- Tirupati- Chittoor- connecting NH IV and V	130
	TOTAL	3222 Kms.

Restriction on Foreign Tourists visits to Sikkim and Nagaland

1888. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have withdrawn restriction on foreign tourists so as to enable them to visit a number of places in Sikkim;

(b) if so, the names of the places rendered open to the foreign tourists;

(c) whether similar restriction on foreign tourists exists in Nagaland;

(d) whether Government are considering any proposal to withdraw the said restriction; and

(e) if so, by when ?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMED SAYEED): (a) and (b) The whole of Sikkim had been declared as Protected Area under the Foreigners (Protected Areas) Order, 1958. With a view to promoting tourism and on the recommendations of the State Govt. of Sikkim, part of Sikkim has since been removed from the Protected Area and included in the Restricted Areas. Even under this scheme foreign tourists require permits to visit Restricted Area portion of Sikkim. However, various authorities like Indian Missions and Posts abroad, Sikkim Govt. officials, etc. have been authorised to issue permits to the foreign tourists liberally.